

Filed for intro on 04/18/95
House Bill _____
By _____

Senate No. SJR0176
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Charlie Bayless,
Head Basketball Coach at Happy Valley
High School, on forty-four years of
coaching excellence.

WHEREAS, Coach Charlie Bayless, Head Basketball Coach at Happy Valley High School, has coached basketball and other sports in an exemplary manner for forty-four years, firmly and unquestionably establishing himself as one of the greatest coaches ever to grace Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, as a prep hoopster, Coach Bayless played brilliantly under Coach John Treadway on several Happy Valley state tournament squads, and later played guard on the collegiate All-American Gold Medal basketball team in 1951; and

WHEREAS, after one season as coach at Jonesborough, he is in his 43rd year as coach at Happy Valley; and

WHEREAS, his numerous coaching milestones include an outstanding overall record of 725-512, thirteen 20+ victory seasons and a state championship in the memorable 1973-1974 season; and

WHEREAS, his extraordinary legacy includes 26 winning basketball seasons, coaching a substate or state tournament representative eight times, 3 regional titles, 11 district tournament championships and 13 Watauga Conference titles; and

WHEREAS, in his seventieth year, when other coaches have long since retired, the Warriors posted an admirable 23-8 record and reached the coveted substate round of the state playoffs during the 1993-94 season; and

WHEREAS, his lengthy list of honors includes being inducted into the East Tennessee Hall of Fame (1990), being chosen Tennessee Coaches' Association Coach of the Year, being the National Association of Basketball Coaches' Achievement Award recipient (1974), assisting Buck Van Huss in coaching at the McDonald's All-Star High School All-Star Basketball Game (1989), being Assistant Coach of the East-West All-Star Basketball Tournament (1974 and 1978) and being chosen for the important post of president of the Watauga Conference (1956-1962); and

WHEREAS, this multi-faceted and very talented coach was also the first Watauga Conference coach to win a league championship in all major sports; he has coached a state champion in girls' golf, Lisa Phipps, in 1990, and a state champion in boys' golf, Jimmy Jones, in 1973, and served with diligence and dedication as president of the Elizabethton Golf Club in 1986-1987 and on the Board of Directors for that group from 1984-1986; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, the Happy Valley Gymnasium was named in his honor, a fitting recognition then and an even more fitting recognition today, because of the tremendous contribution he has made to high school athletics, and most importantly the role he has played in carefully preparing and molding youth to lead successful lives; and

WHEREAS, his charming wife of forty-eight years, Jane, can be seen at every Happy Valley game; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of the countless young citizens of our state who have significantly benefited from his adept coaching and learned how to be successful on and off the courts under his tutelage and the Happy Valley fans, it is appropriate that we pause to specially recognize

this outstanding towel-cracking leader who still calls the shots with a sparkle in his eye; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Charlie Bayless, a pillar of Tennessee high school athletics and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to Coach Bayless, with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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